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U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Extension Service  
Division of Extension Information

REPORT ON RADIO ACTIVITIES AT THE  
24th NATIONAL 4-H CLUB CONGRESS,  
Chicago, December 2-6, 1945

"Radioactivity" was considerable at 4-H Club Congress this year. It followed three general lines.

1. "LIVE" SHOWS

Farm and Homemakers, American Broadcasting Co. network program, gave 9 minutes a day for 5 days, interviewing altogether 28 boys and girls. Curley Bradley, star of the show, Bill Zipf, and C. W. Jackson, Texas Extension, did the interviewing.

Country Journal, Columbia Broadcasting System network, used four boys and girls Saturday, December 1.

National Farm and Home Hour, National Broadcasting Co. network. December 1, Everett Mitchell interviewed four boys and girls. December 2, he interviewed four more youngsters, with Guy Noble, National Committee, and Ray Turner, Federal Extension Service, tossed in for good measure.

National Barn Dance, NBC, featured boys and girls on its December 1 shows, both network and local. All delegations supplied with tickets for this show.

Don McNeill Breakfast Club, NBC, featured 4-H boys and girls, some winning program prizes.

John Charles Thomas Westinghouse show, NBC, December 2, featured 4-H in the John Nesbitt narration.

Harvest of Stars, NBC network, December 1; story of Lieut. Don Tracy, former Nebraska dairy member now in charge of 622-acre Army Air Corps convalescent farm at Pawling, N. Y. Also switch to Chicago for 1945 Field Crop scholarship winners.

Gene Autry Show, Columbia network, December 1; salute to 4-H Clubs.

Mississippi Valley Network (about 60 stations) inaugurated its first farm broadcast December 3 with 4-H Congress material, and used more on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Secretary Clinton P. Anderson's address at the Thos. E. Wilson dinner, December 3, broadcast over ABC network.

Chicago local stations--WGN, WMAQ, WLS--used 4-H features throughout the Congress.

## 2. TRANSCRIPTIONS

The recording room in the Stevens Hotel did a land-office business, opening at 1 p.m., Sunday, December 2, and closing at 2 p.m., Wednesday, December 5. Two NBC engineers set up the equipment and operated it without a break-down or a substandard record during the entire period. Output was 55 cuttings with 275 participants.

RFD's in Chicago for their own annual meeting brought in their delegations and made their own recordings for air-express (in most cases) shipment back to their stations. The following names give you an idea 4-H was pretty active on the air for awhile: Hal Renollet, KOA, Denver; John McDonald, WSM, Nashville; Jim Chapman, WTAM, Cleveland; Cliff Gray, WSPA, Spartanburg, S. C.; George German, WMAX, Yankton, S. Dak.; Herb Flambeck, WEO, Des Moines; Williams, WBZ, Boston; Arnold and Schneider, KVOO, Tulsa, Okla.; Lou Kaiser, Cornell; Layne Beaty, WBAP, Ft. Worth, Tex.; Hugh Muncy, KXEL, Waterloo, Iowa; Stanley Farnsworth, KSL, Salt Lake City; Merv Emmert, WOAI, San Antonio; Jim Miles, WBAA, Purdue; Warren Kester, WMT.

Bill Zipf, John Baker, Chief, USDA Radio, and Bill Drips, NBC agricultural director, voiced recordings for folks who didn't get to Chicago to make their own--folks like Wallace Kadderly, KGW, Portland, Oreg.; Sam Reck, Rutgers; Ruth Ryan, Wyoming University; Robert Child, WGY, Schenectady; and Rex Brown, Colorado A. and M.

Color Note--and from where else but Texas. C. W. Jackson, Texas Extension member of Zipf's radio committee, turned out a recording for Texas A. and M., starring four boys from the Lone Star State, that carried some choice Texas comments on Chicago's "Yankees" and "artificial stars."

## 3. VISITORS WITH THEIR OWN EQUIPMENT AND ENGINEER

Quite a list of these folks--some with wire recorders in their rooms whose names we never did run down. But those we do know about: Roy Battles, WLN, Cincinnati; Merrill Langfitt, KMA, Shenandoah, Iowa; Herb Overton, WIBO, Indianapolis; Ted Manger, KMOX, St. Louis; Hal Totten, WGN, Chicago; George German, WMAX, Yankton, S. Dak. Think George has the distinction of being the only RFD present to use two sets of equipment, his own and the Club Congress recording room, for an interview with Secretary Anderson.

### Radio Committee.

Besides Zipf and Jackson, the Congress radio committee this year included Verne Varney, Wisconsin; Geraldine Fenn, South Dakota; and Betsy Pitt, USDA Radio Service. No matter how many requests came in for youngsters to appear on radio angles, how many angles to the specifications (must be boy, must be girl, must be national health winner, must be from Indiana), or how short the time, or how early in the morning the show, somehow these folks filled the order. No use telling you how many boys and girls they rounded up--you wouldn't believe it, especially in Verne's case, because he had his fingers in dozens of other pies too.

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One Other Item

4-H Congress produced a 4-H discussion recording with a national slant, up to standard in every way. It's already scheduled as Timely Farm Topics from USDA NO. 49b, and will be in the hands of stations about the end of January. J. P. Schmidt, of Ohio State, is the chief reason we were able to get it. He selected the panel of three boys and three girls, representing Maine, Mississippi, Maryland, Kansas, Montana, and New Hampshire, and led the discussion on 4-H's 10 Guideposts. The recording is a natural for helping launch the 1946 4-H discussion program locally. The youngsters "talk right out" and have something to say.

Betsy Pitt, Radio Service

The Great Wall of China is a series of walls and fortifications built by the Chinese to protect their northern borders from various nomadic groups. It is one of the most famous landmarks in the world. The wall is made of stone and brick, and it stretches for thousands of miles across the northern part of China. It is a symbol of the strength and unity of the Chinese people.

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA